

LOOKS LIKE
A WAR MOVE

The Dutch Captured a Venezuelan Coastguard Ship

AND TAKES IT INTO PORT

Curacao Is Greatly Excited Over This Manifestation That the Dutch Mean Business—Governor Says It Is Only Reprisal.

Willemstad, Curacao, Dec. 14.—The Dutch cruiser Gelderland came into this port towing the Venezuelan guard ship Alix, with the Dutch flag flying and a Dutch crew on board. The Gelderland captured the Alix off Puerto Cabello on Saturday. At that time the Alix was lying close ashore and, notwithstanding the threat which the Venezuelan government had made to fire upon any of the Dutch warships committing hostile acts, the Gelderland steamed at speed towards the guardship and sent an officer and guard in a launch to seize her. This they did without resistance, an act which was not considered an unfriendly act against the Venezuelans. It is merely a reprisal against Castro's government, which refused to give satisfaction for his unfriendly attitude towards Holland. The seizure of these vessels will make it impossible for the Venezuelan government to carry troops or ammunition to and from the various ports. A communication to this effect has been forwarded by the Dutch government to the German minister at Caracas.

It is learned from the officers of the Gelderland that the battleship Jacob Van Heemskerck and the cruiser Friesland are not off La Guayra and that further captures may be expected at any time. These two vessels left here on Friday, cleared for action, and it was believed at that time that the intention was to make a forcible demonstration at La Guayra. The opinion is held here that the Venezuelan government will not go so far as to fire upon the Dutch warships which, in view of the fact that Venezuela is practically without a navy, hold the Venezuelan ports at their mercy.

CAUSED WILD EXCITEMENT.

The Capture of Venezuelan Coastguard Ship By The Dutch.

Willemstad, Dec. 14.—The capture of the coastguard ship Alix by the Dutch cruiser Gelderland and the subsequent absence of Castro are creating the wildest excitement in Venezuela. French advisers say that Castro is placing millions in his banks there and has no thought to return until the Dutch trouble is settled.

REPLY IS READY

TO BE TRANSMITTED

President Will Give It to Congress in a Day or Two Regarding The Panama Charges.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—President Roosevelt's official reply to the Panama charges, involving his brother-in-law, Douglas Robinson and Charles P. Taft, is in type. It will be transmitted to Congress in a day or two. The government printing office worked all last night on the job.

VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY.

Ruef's Attorney Not Convicted of Attempt to Bribe Jurymen.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—A verdict of not guilty was returned by the jury Saturday at midnight in the case of Attorney Frank J. Murphy of counsel for Abraham Ruef, who was charged with attempting to bribe Jurymen Kelley to vote for a verdict favorable to Ruef.

An effort is in progress among the Hebrews of Burlington to raise funds for the erection of a schoolhouse in that city for the instruction of their children in the Hebrew faith. The Hebrew Holy society stands back of the plan and about \$2,000 has already been raised. It is expected that at least \$4,000 will be raised by spring and work will then begin. The building will cost at least \$15,000.

TWO BUILDINGS FALL
FROM BOMB EXPLOSION

Several Persons Are Believed to Have Been Killed in Chicago Last Night—Many Audiences in a Panic.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Two buildings were wrecked, several persons are believed to have been killed and windows were shattered for a block around by the terrific explosion of a bomb in an alley in Washington avenue near Sixteenth street last night.

The wrecked buildings adjoin the Coliseum, where the first ward Democratic hall, an annual revel, against the holding of which this year much opposition had been made, is scheduled to be held to-night. The police are working on the theory that the bomb thrower designed to frighten people from going to the Coliseum, and thus prevent the ball.

The report of the explosion was heard for a mile. The congregation of Grace Episcopal church, adjoining the Coliseum, and of the Open Church, a block away, and guests of several nearby hotels, rushed to the streets excitedly. A two-story frame building in Washington avenue collapsed and took fire. The fire leaped across a vacant lot and spread to another frame building, which was also wrecked. Properties of the Coliseum stored in the two buildings were fuel for the flames. It was reported that two men had entered one of the buildings a short time before the explosion, but the police and firemen have found no bodies in the ruins.

Another theory is that the bomb was thrown as another demonstration in the "gamblers' war," which has been marked by the firing of a series of bombs, in the vicinity of alleged gambling places, said to be favored by the police, to the detriment of the bomb throwers, whose places have been closed.

The first ward ball has long been a source of contention between reformers and the promoters of the annual festival. Recently the pastor of Grace Episcopal church sought and failed to get an injunction to prevent the holding of the ball on the ground that it was prejudicial to the morals of the community.

HAINS TRIAL OPENS;

JURORS BEING EXCUSED

The Defendant's Senior Counsel Was Absent To-day, and the Start of the Case Lagged Considerably.

Flushing, L. I., Dec. 14.—Thornton J. Hains' trial before Judge James C. Crane with 235 takers in attendance. Because John P. McIntyre, senior counsel for the defense, was absent this morning, the session was devoted to hearing the excuses of jurors. Hains will be brought from the Long Island City jail and will make the trip today.

Hains is being tried as an accessory to the murder of William E. Annis, a magazine writer, who was shot at the Bay-side Yacht club last summer by the defendant's brother, Capt. Peter C. Hains, U. S. A., stationed at Fort Hamilton. It is charged that Thornton Hains, armed with a revolver, waved back a crowd of club members, Annis, who was stepping out of his cab, was fired upon five times.

Counsel for the Hains brothers, who will set up the defense of temporary insanity in the trial of Captain Hains, which will follow that of his brother, have indicated that the defense of Thornton Hains will be that one may not be held as an accessory to the crime of another who is temporarily insane. The chief issue in the captain's trial, it is expected, will therefore be threshed out at this trial. It will be asserted, it is said, that disclosures regarding the alleged conduct of his wife and Annis had driven Captain Hains into mental irresponsibility, and that Thornton could not be made to share the responsibility for the act of a madman. Judge Frederick Crane of the supreme court will hear the case. District Attorney Ira Darrin and special prosecutor Elmer White will appear for the state and John F. McIntyre, former county district attorney of New York county, assisted by Joseph Shay, will represent the defense.

SAW CHILDREN BURN.

Four Small and Helpless Beings Roasted to Death.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 14.—Near Hawthorne eight miles from Ottawa, the four infant children of William J. Schaff, a farmer, were burned to death in their beds Sunday morning while the parents looked on unable to give aid. At six o'clock in the morning the parents left the children sleeping in the second story of the house, and went to a barn a short distance away to milk a son afterward Schaff saw flames bursting through the upper windows of the house. The fire made such headway that the parents were unable to give aid. The children could be heard crying in agony. The eldest of the children was four and a half years old and the youngest four months. Their charred remains were recovered from the ruins.

THEATRES OPEN ALSO.

And Montreal Is Getting to Be a Wide-Open Town.

Montreal, Dec. 14.—As a protest against the 75 moving picture shows which do a thriving Sunday business, the Academy and Franco, two of the leading theatres opened their doors yesterday. The performances consisted of songs and moving pictures but the attendance was not large. The police were on hand to collect evidence for the prosecutions which will follow the infringement of the city by-law.

PRESIDENT
HOLDS GROUND

In the Brownsville Case But Reiterates Belief

THE GUILT OF THE NEGROES

Roosevelt Submitted a Special Message to the Senate To-day on Subject—Recommends Leniency to the Innocent.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate today a special Brownsville message denouncing the negro soldiers and re-declaring their guilt, but recommending leniency to those who have done all in their power to aid in the punishment of those who were guilty. He submits a long statement of investigation by the war office detectives.

President Roosevelt says: "I received a letter from the Secretary of War transmitting a report of the investigation made by Mr. Herbert J. Brown, employed by the department in conjunction with Capt. W. G. Baldwin to investigate as far as possible what happened at Brownsville on the 13th and 14th of August, 1906. The report and documents contain some information of great value and some statements that are obviously worthless, but I submit them in their entirety."

"This report enables us to fix with tolerable definiteness at least some of the criminals who took the lead in the shooting of private citizens at Brownsville. It establishes clearly the fact that the colored soldiers did the shooting; but upon this point further record was unnecessary, as the fact that the colored soldiers did the shooting has already been established beyond all possibility of doubt. The investigation has not gone far enough to enable us to determine all the facts, and we will proceed with it; but it has gone far enough to determine with sufficient accuracy certain facts of enough importance to make it advisable that I place the report before you. It appears that almost all the members of Company B must have been actively concerned in the shooting, either to the extent of being participants or to the extent of virtually encouraging those who were participants. As to Companies C and D, there can be no question that practically every man in them must have had knowledge that the shooting was done by some of the soldiers of B Troop, and possibly by one or two others in one of the other troops. The concealment was itself a grave offense, which was greatly aggravated by their testifying before the Senate committee that they were ignorant of what they were doing."

"Nevertheless, it is to be said in partial extenuation that they were probably cowed by threats, made by the more desperate of the men who had actually been engaged in the shooting, as to what would happen to any man who failed to protect the wrongdoers. Moreover, there are circumstances tending to show that these misguided men were encouraged by outsiders to persist in their course of concealment and denial. I feel, therefore, that the guilt of the men who, after the event, thus shielded the perpetrators of the wrong by refusing to tell the truth about them, though serious, was in part due to the unwise and improper attitude of others, and that some measure of allowance should be made for the misconduct. In other words, I believe we can afford to reinstate any of these men who now truthfully tell what has happened and who help us to fix the responsibility upon those who are really guilty, and show that they themselves had no knowledge beforehand and were in no way implicated in the affair, save by having knowledge of it afterwards and failing to refuse to divulge it."

Under the circumstances, and in view of the length of time they have been out of the service, and their loss of the benefit that would have accrued to them by continuous long-time service, we can afford to treat the men who meet the requirements given above as having been sufficiently punished by the consequences they brought upon themselves when they rendered necessary the exercise of the disciplinary power. I recommend that a law be passed allowing the secretary of war, within a fixed period of time, say a year, to reinstate any of these soldiers whom he, after careful examination, finds to have been innocent and whom he finds to have done all in his power to help bring to justice the guilty."

Meanwhile the investigation will be continued. The results have made it obvious that only by carrying on the investigation as the war department has actually carried it on, is there the slightest chance of bringing the offenders to justice or of separating the innocent from the guilty, for there were doubtless hardly any innocent, but the less guilty from those whose guilt was heinous.

PLAINFIELD.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Batchelder spent Sunday with Mrs. Emma Zetzel.

Mrs. John Perry is reported as ill. Miss Grace Fick returned to Jamaica Plain, Mass., Monday morning after spending a short vacation with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. P. R. Fick.

Miss Ethel Rubelle of Montpelier recently visited at the home of her brother, Albert Rubelle.

The entertainment at the opera house Saturday evening for the benefit of the Plainfield Cornet band was well attended. The band netted about forty-seven dollars.

The funeral services of the late John Bean were held Wednesday afternoon at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Orpha Foster. The services were conducted by Rev. E. R. Fick and Rev. W. Hewitt. The burial was at the Center cemetery.

ST. ALBANS DRUG STORE
DAMAGED BY FIRE

E. J. Alexander Again Damaged, This Time to the Extent of \$1,000—Cause of the Fire Is Not Known.

St. Albans, Dec. 14.—Fire which broke out at 3 o'clock this morning in the basement of the drug store of E. J. Alexander did damage to the extent of \$1,000, mostly from smoke and water. The blaze was quickly extinguished with chemicals, but little water being turned on. It is not known just how the fire started, but it is thought probable that it was caused by an electric light wire coming in contact with a gas meter or pipe. The tobacco stock of W. T. Donovan in the next store was damaged to some extent. There was a fire that did greater damage in this same basement last April.

CAN'T FIND KEIRAN.

Missing Former President of Fidelity Funding Co.

New York, Dec. 14.—The search of process servers and others for Patrick J. Keiran, the missing former president of the Fidelity Funding company, made no progress yesterday. Keiran's wife returned to New York late Saturday night. She refused to discuss the whereabouts of her husband.

John Thomas Smith, a lawyer, who represents a number of Keiran's creditors, is in Pennsylvania expecting to find the missing man. The hearing to determine whether state or federal receivers shall adjust the affairs of the Fidelity will be continued today at the office of Referee Olney.

Mrs. Keiran late last night denied that her husband was in the city or "Mr. Keiran," she said, "is busy attending to the affairs of his company. Whatever trouble exists is caused by persons trying to collect what is not due them. Nobody has lost or will lose a legitimate dollar by any action of Mr. Keiran. He was never more solvent than now. In due time he will meet every obligation and make any explanation that may be due to those entitled to explanations."

TABLET TO AN EDITOR.

To George Grenville Benedict, Late of Burlington Free Press.

Burlington, Dec. 14.—At the morning service yesterday at the College Street church a tablet was dedicated to the memory of George Grenville Benedict, late editor of the Free Press and of other churches here present.

The pulpit was draped in the national colors and on a table stood the loving cup which was presented to Mr. Benedict on the 80th anniversary of his birth, and which was filled with flowers. A number of Mr. Benedict's friends from other churches were present.

LAKE NAVIGATION ENDS.

Ticonderoga Made Her Last Trip in Snow Storm.

Burlington, Dec. 14.—Navigation was closed on Lake Champlain on Saturday when the steamer Ticonderoga made her last trip for the season to Plattsburg and return. The boat left on the morning trip in a blinding snow storm and with but few passengers. Yesterday morning the steamer was taken in Shelburne harbor for the winter. The past season on the lake has been a fair one. The tourist and freight business was not so heavy as in some years but the excursion business brought in a record. Navigation during the latter part of the season was somewhat difficult because of the extremely low water.

MAN AND WOMAN ARRESTED.

Charged With Adultery, They Waived Examination.

Middlebury, Dec. 14.—Frank Forrest was arrested at his home Saturday afternoon on Seymour street by Sheriff N. J. Sanford and a little later his supposed housekeeper, Mrs. Scitelle Lavallee, was taken into custody by the same officer. They were brought before Justice A. W. Dickens charged with adultery. Examination was waived, neither party having counsel, and they were held under \$300 each until nine o'clock Tuesday morning. They were unable to secure bail and were committed to the county jail. Mr. Forrest is a native and well known resident of Middlebury but the woman is almost a stranger in town.

HIT HIM IN FACE.

Montpelier Man in Court for Striking a Younger Fellow.

Joseph LaBric was in Montpelier city court today on the charge of assaulting Edward Duckett, the young son of LaBric's boardinghouse mistress. LaBric pleaded guilty and was fined \$3, with costs of \$5.20. The assault consisted of striking young Duckett several times in the face when he refused to surrender a musical instrument to a younger son in the Duckett family. Both boys wanted to make some harmony, which resulted in the discord. The older Duckett boy, who got the punching, said that his mother had refused to let his brother have the instrument for fear that he would damage it.

CONFIRMED LARGE CLASS.

Bishop Hall Preached a Powerful Sermon at Episcopal Church.

The Rt. Rev. Arthur C. A. Hall, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Vermont, made his official visit to the church of the Good Shepherd yesterday. At the 10:30 o'clock service the bishop preached a powerful sermon at the close he confirmed a class of twenty people. The service was well attended.

RAILROADS
TAX TOO LOW

Thinks the Vermont House of Representatives

IMPORTANT BILL FAVORED

It Proposes to Increase the Tax on Railroads to \$12.50 on the Thousand—Senate Did Not Meet Until Afternoon To-day.

NEW LAWS TO-DAY.

Large Number of Measures Received Gov. Prouty's Signature.

Governor Prouty to-day signed the following bills: H. 89, an act to incorporate the St. Johnsbury Street Railroad company. H. 104, an act to amend section 5205 of the public statutes, relating to the extermination of destructive fish. H. 293, an act to legalize the quadrennial appraisal of the town of Chittenden for the years 1902 and 1906, and the grand lists thereof for the years 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907 and 1908.

H. 288, an act in amendment of and in addition to No. 105 of the acts of 1889, entitled, "An act to incorporate the village of Ensbury Falls." H. 290, an act to provide for a system of ventilation in the State House. H. 438, an act in addition to No. 182 of the acts of 1894, relating to the village of Johnson.

H. 452, an act to authorize the city of Burlington to issue certain bonds or notes. H. 496, an act to amend section 6176 of the public statutes, relating to salaries of the judges of the supreme court and the superior judges. H. 496, an act to amend No. 237 of the acts of 1904, entitled, "An act to incorporate the village of Jacksonville."

H. 524, an act in addition to an act to incorporate the Central Vermont Railway company. H. 527, an act to increase the efficiency of the Vermont National Guard. H. 528, an act to amend section 520 of the public statutes, relating to notices and hearings on quadrennial appraisals of real estate.

H. 537, an act to change the corporate name of the village of Barton Landing to village of Orleans and to amend certain acts relating to said village. Joint resolution setting apart No. 8 in the state capitol for the use of the board of railroad commissioners and providing the necessary rooms for the use and accommodation of the attorney general.

H. 409, an act to amend section 10 of No. 191 of the acts of 1898, entitled, "An act in amendment of and in addition to the act of incorporation of the village of Essex Junction," approved November 15, 1892.

FRAMING NEW BILL.

To Present to Legislature on Proposed Change of River-bed.

The city council held a special meeting Saturday afternoon with which the council met a committee from the abutters and a conference was held in regard to the proposed change of the course of the stream back of the business blocks on North Main street. The council was fully represented and the abutters were represented by a committee composed of D. M. Miles and W. G. Rowland. Attorneys R. A. Hoar, of the abutters and H. G. Shurtliff of Montpelier, attorney for the Barre railroad, were also present.

A bill which had been drawn by City Attorney J. Ward Carver, and which it is proposed to present to the legislature, was discussed and some changes recommended. The bill is in the form of a petition to allow the city of Barre to condemn certain lands back of the business blocks belonging to the Barre and Central Vermont railroad companies for highway purposes.

The bill as drawn gives, under the common law, the right to the street commissioners, if it is passed, and Attorney Rowland suggested an amendment. The proposed amendment gave the sole authority of the proposed change to the city council to condemn or not the land, as in the discretion of the council seemed best.

A collective bond had been presented to the abutters and others interested in the proposed change, asking them to assume responsibility for the expense of the project, with the exception of \$5,000, which the city agreed to pay. On this proposition, D. M. Miles reported that he for one would be unwilling to sign any such collective bond, but said that he was willing to sign individually for a share of the expense proportionate to the benefit which he would derive from the change, and felt that others would do the same.

The council then went into executive session. During the latter session it was decided to leave the bill in the hands of the city attorney for redrafting and in the city attorney's hands were deemed necessary. The city council will meet again to-night on the same matter.

KICKED IN THE STOMACH.

Peter LeClair Was Shoeing a Refractory Horse at the Time.

Peter LeClair, who resides on Addison street in this city and who runs a blacksmith shop in Washington, met with an accident last Friday which it is feared will have serious results. Mr. LeClair was working around a horse when the animal kicked him in the stomach, knocking him senseless to the floor.

He was taken to his boarding place and medical aid summoned and all that could be done was done for him. It is impossible to tell yet just what the results of his injuries may be, but his condition today is fairly comfortable.

ROSE BRASSAW DEAD.

Had Been Ill a Long Time With Complicated Diseases.

The death of Mrs. Rose K. Brassaw, widow of Fred Brassaw, occurred at nine o'clock last Saturday night at her home on River street following a long illness with Bright's disease and dropsy. Mrs. Brassaw was about 37 years of age and was born in Corinth and for the past 20 years had resided during most of the time in this city. She is survived by one daughter, who is supposed to be in Colorado.

The funeral will be held from her late residence at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

EXAMINERS AND UNDERTAKERS, RELATING TO THE PRACTICE ON EMBALMING.

H. 176, to fix the pay of court reporters. H. 283, defining intoxicating liquor. Representative Boutwell's Wife Dead.

A resolution was presented by Mr. Fletcher of Cavendish, extending to Representative W. C. Boutwell of Stockbridge the sympathy of the House on the death of his wife and instructing the clerk to transmit a copy of the resolution to Mr. Boutwell. The resolution passed unanimously.

ARREST MADE IN MURDER

Fred Brown Denies Having Killed Fred Chappell

KILLING WAS COWARDLY

Three Bullet Wounds in Back and Head of Victim, Whose Body Was Found Saturday Night in Town in Northern New Hampshire.

Colebrook, N. H., Dec. 14.—Fred Brown was arrested today for the murder of Fred Chappell, a farmer of the little town of Pittsburg, whose body was found Saturday night in a lonely place. There were three bullet wounds in the back and head. It is alleged that Chappell was attentive to Brown's wife, Brown denies killing Chappell. An investigation was started yesterday into the murder of Chappell. The fatal shots were heard by Chappell's father, who lived with him, and who was the first person to discover his son's lifeless body. Footprints leading from the highway through the woods gave the officers a clue.

Chappell was about 40 years of age married, and had a son and daughter. For some time he had lived apart from his wife, who is at present in Boston. The daughter, about 6 years old, is at her father's home, while the boy, who is a year or two younger, lives with his mother.

County Solicitor Howard Wright of Berlin, and Medical Referee Dr. Edward Cook of Colebrook, were notified of the murder and came here yesterday to hold an inquest and make a thorough investigation.

BODY FOUND ON TRACKS.

Victim Mangled in Bowdoinham, Me., Murder Suspected.

Bowdoinham, Me., Dec. 14.—The body of a man was found Sunday strewn for two miles along the tracks of the Maine Central railroad. Marks of a struggle in the snow near where the first part of the body was found and a pool of blood beside a rail led to the belief that the man was murdered. There were no means of identification upon the body except a plain gold ring, which was unmarked. A new pair of overalls was found near the body. Footprints in the snow show that another man was with the victim.

Near where the first part of the body was found and opposite the pool of blood was a space about fifteen feet in diameter which showed signs of a scuffle in which at least three men must have participated, and possibly a woman. A hat which probably belonged to the victim was also found. A bullet hole in it pointed to the possible manner of his death.

The body was first seen by Joseph Dionne, a section hand, early Sunday morning. Scott Brown, another section hand, found the body and notified Constable Edward Fitzgerald, who, with Selectman J. H. Ames, made an investigation.

All of the clothes had been torn off the body and the head was badly mutilated. The man was apparently about middle age, rather short and thick set. He wore a heavy reefer, a blue vest, a flannel shirt and thick underclothes. It is believed he was a woodsman.

FUNERAL OF L. P. AUSTIN.

Was Held Saturday at Amoskeag, N. H., With Interment There Also.

The funeral services of Leslie P. Austin, late of this city, were held from the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Austin, 80 Dunbarton road, Amoskeag, N. H., Saturday afternoon at two o'clock. The Rev. F. A. Poole, pastor of the Congregational church in this city, officiated. Two selections were rendered by L. G. Griffiths of this city, who was a close friend of the deceased.

Granite Lodge, No. 35, F. and A. M., Granite Chapter and St. Aldemar Commandery were represented by Donald Blake, William Bradbury and D. F. Davis. Lee Allen, also of this city, attended the funeral. Among others in attendance were John French and William Rundlett of Manchester, N. H. The bearers were George W. Kibbe, Henry B. Stearns, Austin Stearns and Arthur P. Senter.

Among the floral tributes were the following: pillars with word "Husband" from the wife; lyre, roses, carnations and chrysanthemums, with word "Rest" from the family; spray of pink and white roses, Philip Austin and wife of Manchester; keynotes, white chrysanthemums and white carnations, with emblem from Granite Chapter; emblem from St. Aldemar Commandery; white roses, M. L. Allen of Barre; spray of white carnations, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Bruce of Barre; white roses, Mr. and Mrs. George Colby of Barre; white roses, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Fisher, Mrs. Parks and M. L. Clark of Barre; white carnations, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Gould and the results of his injuries may be, but his condition today is fairly comfortable.

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TALK OF THE TOWN.

See Maroon Brothers' adv. on Oriental goods.

M. N. Melvay went to Hardwick to-day for a business visit.